



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday February 18, 2026

5:30PM

Skyline Center 929 N. Front St
Azalea Room 154H

or [HYBRID ZOOM](#)

Call to Order Chair: Terry Smith
Vice Chair: Ron Woodruff

Call to order 5:31 PM

Staff Liaison: Amy Beatty, Parks & Recreation Director,

Public comment period (3 minutes)

Introduction of Council Member Cassidy Santaguida

Approval of January 2026 Minutes

Franklin Boney motioned to approve the January 2026 minutes. Rhonda Waterhouse Provided a second and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: N/A

Guest Speakers: N/A

Old Business

Greenville Loop Rd. property update – Amy Beatty

- Purchase of a new park by the city and New Hanover County
- The city received a \$7 million grant from the NHC Endowment towards the purchase of the property.
- The city contributed \$1 million and the county contributed \$1 million for the purchase.
- The purchase includes four parcels off of Greenville Loop Road next to Bradley Creek Elementary.
- Roughly 25 acres of property for the park.
- Park came from recommendations in our comprehensive plan that was adopted in January 2023.
- This area of the city was the second highest in terms of vulnerability of lacking public art and amenities.

- The contingencies of the grant are to make this an active park and how the city will engage the public in getting feedback on what they want to see. This will include the New Hanover County School System, specifically Bradley Creek Elementary, which is adjacent to the park.
- Design process will begin with a public engagement period.
- The park must be developed within five years.
- Total cost for development will be the city's responsibility.
- The city will be responsible for all future maintenance of the park.

Committee Reports

- Parks & Greenway Committee Goal 3 + 5 + Adopt-a-Park initiative
Franklin wanted to talk about the adaptive reuse of property at 10th Street and Fanning, the Coleman Complex and many others. Some properties off 4th St., 41 Bladen, 812 N. Front St. and 722 N. Front St. are all vacant properties. On 23rd Street there is about 90 acres for sale. 360 Allen Lane, which is off of Military Cutoff, is 3 separate parcels for sale and about 18 acres in total. 5529 Park Avenue has 36 acres behind Casey's BBQ. Research is needed for all of these areas.
- Engagement Committee Goal 2 + 4
Council member Cassidy Santaguida is here with us for this board meeting. Cape Fear Garden Club might be a good invitation for the next meeting.
- Student Involvement Committee Goal 1
No update to report

Chair's Report

- Terry will be speaking at the next New Hanover County Parks Advisory Board on March 3rd at 8:30am.
- The Olsen Park Grand opening was a success, and everything is open and available for use.

Staff Report

- Amy stated that there is a citywide reorganization taking place and there will be significant changes. The city manager presented the new organizational chart to City Council this past week. The Parks and Recreation Department will still play a major part in the development of park projects.
- The maintenance part of Parks and Recreation will be moving to the Asset and Property Management

- Department along with the Urban Forestry Division.
- Special Events will be moving to the new Downtown Services Department.
 - Film Permit Benchmark Fees: Compilation of other city's filming fees. Other cities charge a permit review fee. The Department reviews every film permit whether it's on city or private property. It is aligned with the cost recovery policy that was endorsed by this advisory board and the city council adopted this past year.
 - During the February 3rd Council meeting, funds appropriated for the resurfacing of courts 9 through 18 at Althea Gibson Tennis Center. A portion of this was allocated capital improvement funding for maintenance, and the Department also received grants.
 - \$7,500 grant from USTA.
 - \$29,000 grant from USTA
 - \$60,000 grant from USTA
 - Donation of \$5,700 from the Greater Wilmington Tennis Association

Board Member Round Table

Terry wanted to say that he thought his term was up in December, but he received a letter that his term will not expire again until 2028.

Council member Cassidy Santaguida said that the meeting was insightful and that she has been serving on the parks conservancy board with the county for years and had to resign because it conflicts with other meetings.

Adjournment 6:18pm

Rhonda Waterhouse motioned to adjourn, David Eason provided a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Wednesday March 18, 5:30PM Skyline Center Azalea Room 154H